



**CITY OF SUNNYVALE  
DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC**

**GUIDELINES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF  
IN-ROADWAY WARNING LIGHTS (IRWLs) SYSTEMS**

IRWL Systems are a series of flashing lights embedded in the pavement which are intended to provide additional warning to road users of the presence of pedestrians crossing at the crosswalk. The California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) outlines standards and guidelines for the installation of these devices in California, while the Federal Highway Administration Publication Number FHWA-HRT-04-100, provides guidelines for crosswalk improvements.

In an effort to allocate resources where they are most needed and to ensure new IRWL Systems are being installed at locations where these are an appropriate warning device, the City has developed these guidelines per engineering principles and CA MUTCD standards and guidelines. The City of Sunnyvale, Department of Public Works, Division of Transportation and Traffic will follow these guidelines upon request of an IRWL System at a specified location. While these parameters are a valuable guideline to establishing candidates for future IRWL Systems, staff shall also use engineering judgment in determining the adequacy of IRWLs as an appropriate warning device at each location.

While IRWLs are not a required warning device at any crossing, the City will take every opportunity to improve pedestrian safety where appropriate by IRWLs. While there is no funding set aside for installation of warning lights, the City always seeks opportunities for outside grant funding. The implementation of these measures at warranted locations are contingent on the availability and disbursement of such funds.



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